

REMARKS

Claims 1-58 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1-11, 14-37, and 39-58 stand rejected over the prior art. Claims 1-58, particularly relating to claims 1 and 40, stand rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph. Claims 37 and 39 stand objected to under 37 CFR §1.75(c) for being in improper form. Finally, claims 12, 13, and 38 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

In response to this Office Action, Applicants have cancelled claims 40-58. In addition, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 38, as well as claim 37 from which claim 38 depends. As a result, amended claim 1 includes the limitations of allowable claim 38. Claims 37 and 38 have been cancelled, claims 36 and 39 have been amended to depend from claim 1, and minor clarifying amendments have been made to claims 4, 7, 23, 33, 35, and 36.

In response to the objection to claim 1 under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, Applicants have deleted at lines 1-2 the language "for use in an office to compact shredded paper waste" which had been added in the Amendment dated September 8, 2008. In addition, the language added in the September 8, 2008 Amendment at the end of claim 1, reading, "at least at the second ends thereof which form the material entry region to accommodate increased bale bulk in use," has been deleted from claim 1. In the Office Action dated May 8, 2008, the Examiner indicated that claim 38 contained allowable subject matter. The amendments discussed above that were made to claim 1 in the September 8, 2008 Office Action did not change the Examiner's conclusion that claim 38, which had depended from claim 37, which depended from claim 1, contained allowable subject matter. The amendment made to claim 1 in the September 8, 2008 Amendment relating to the language of "each of the conveyors" remains and was needed to address a prior indefiniteness objection raised by the Examiner.

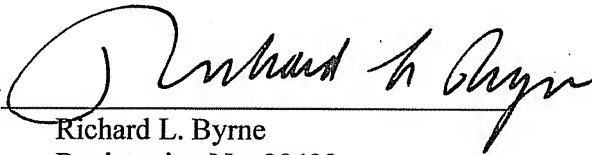
With the current amendment to claim 1, all of the objections to claim 1 have been removed, and claim 1 contains allowable subject matter since it includes the limitations of claims 37 and 38. Therefore, it is believed that claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

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Remaining claims 2-36 and 39 depend from and add further limitations to claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons discussed above in connection with claim 1.

Reconsideration of the rejections and objections and allowance of claims 1-36 and 39 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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